

THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN

A WEEKLY JOURNAL
OF
LOCAL NEWS AND HOME READING.
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THE EDITORIAL AND NEWS DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITIZEN ARE SEPARATE FROM THE BUSINESS DEPARTMENT, WHICH IS UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE PUBLISHERS.

SUBSCRIPTIONS, ADVERTISEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS OF ANY KIND, SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN, P. O. BOX 240, BLOOMFIELD, NEW JERSEY. OUR OFFICE IS OVER THE POST OFFICE.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE AUTHOR'S NAME, IN CONFIDENCE, OR FOR PUBLICATION, REJECTED OR UNAVAILABLE ARTICLES, HAVING PROPER STAMP AND ADDRESS, WILL BE RETURNED.

WHILE IT IS THE FULL INTENTION OF THE EDITOR TO ALLOW THE LARGEST LIBERTY TO CONTRIBUTE, IT MUST BE DISTINCTLY UNDERSTOOD THAT WE DO NOT THEREBY ENDORSE THEIR OPINIONS OR ARE IN ANY SENSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEM.

NEWS ITEMS, NOTICES AND REPORTS MUST BE SENT TO THE OFFICE NOT LATER THAN THURSDAY EVENING OF EACH WEEK, IF THEY ARE TO APPEAR IN THE CURRENT NUMBER.

TRANSIENT NOTICES, FIFTY CENTS FOR EIGHT LINES EACH INSERTION. FOR LARGER SPACE AND PERMANENT RATES, APPLY AS ABOVE.

INTRODUCTORY.

IN RESPONSE to a general and long-continued demand for an organ to represent the interests of Bloomfield, an association of gentlemen called THE BLOOMFIELD PUBLISHING COMPANY has now undertaken to issue a weekly journal. Its title is THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN, and its purpose is to advance the prosperity of the town. Those who are concerned in its management have provided an amount of capital which places the enterprise beyond the stage of experiment, and from the start assures its permanence.

It is our idea to make a newspaper which shall treat every week of those affairs in which our citizens are immediately interested. We shall not purchase stereotyped editorials or "patent outside." We prefer to appear with contents which are either original or are selected by ourselves.

We shall obtain whatever LOCAL NEWS is going. We do not propose to deal in idle gossip or trivial personalities. But we shall not let the current topics of conversation, or the items of the town and neighborhood, escape us.

OUR EDITORIALS will not be the work of any single hand, and will often be the result of long consideration and debate. We shall advocate, without hesitation, whatever will improve or benefit Bloomfield. If we support a measure or a man, it will be because a council of our best citizens has so decided. We shall utter no uncertain sound, and while we respect the rights of all, we shall try to offer good grounds for our own opinions.

We shall make particular note of every scheme which advances sound morals, diffuses liberal sentiments, and encourages education, taste, or social improvement.

Our columns will always be open to any citizen, who, affording us his name, in the strictest confidence, and as a guarantee of good faith, may desire to make any suggestion or even ventilate any grievance. We shall not hold ourselves accountable for these communications, and may even combat them editorially when this appears to us to be required.

THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN is not to be looked upon as the exponent of any individual editorship or management. Our affairs are conducted by a Board of Directors, and the Editorial Committee, chosen by this Board, are responsible to them for the newspaper and its contents. Our system is such that the amount of work put into the paper each week will be the contribution of many persons, sifted and digested, and placed in proper condition for the public reading.

We do not expect to compete with the great metropolitan dailies, and we shall therefore pay but slight attention to general news. We shall, of course, observe what the World and the Nation are doing, but it is not part of our plan to

supersede the usual sources of information. We shall frequently publish bright and entertaining and wholesome stories, and our columns will contain many items of permanent value.

The POEM and the SCIENTIFIC DEBATE will both be found in our pages. Our RELIGION will be as broad as Christianity will permit, and our POLITICS as large as honesty can make them.

We ask in this enterprise the cordial co-operation of all classes of our fellow-citizens, to whom we in our turn hope to come as a trusted and welcome guest. To ADVERTISERS and other patrons we offer favorable terms, and a certain and definite circulation. To SUBSCRIBERS we propose to give the full worth of all that they pay. To CONTRIBUTORS we insure fairness in considering their productions. For the present we will return unavailable or rejected articles on receipt of stamps and address.

This is our programme, carefully elaborated by the experience and consultation of gentlemen who are not ignorant of the character, and management, and responsibility of the work that is before them. We shall be bound to commence, and to continue, upon the basis here set forth.

OUR news columns contain a communication from the executive committee of the Fire Association, which gives full information of the plans of the committee, and of the success with which their efforts have been attended. The matter deserves the careful consideration of our readers, and especially of our real estate owners.

We publish on our fourth page the first of a series of articles under the general title of "The Dreamer by Daylight." They have been offered to us by a gentleman whom we expect to retain as a regular contributor, and they will be of substantially the same character as the initial number in the present issue.

News being what we are always and abundantly supplied with, we have no need of any neighborhood events. Address: "THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN, P. O. BOX 240, Bloomfield, New Jersey." As matters are frequently mentioned which are conjectural, or mere rumors and surmises, we must invariably request the names of our informants, assuring them at the same time of our honorable secrecy as to the authorship of the items. We cannot otherwise notice or publish the information.

A CERTAIN SORT OF BLOOMFIELD MAN.

The past attitude of Bloomfield deserves a word in connection with present improvements. She owes her advance to her humility. Her lesson was early taught and faithfully learned. Her citizens were truly meek—meek that there is no good reason why they should not hereafter inherit all the neighborhood. Was there an instance of conspicuous lack of progress? Immediately there arose that sort of man, from Bloomfield who claimed the honor of pre-eminence in this thing for his native place. Was there mud elsewhere in the spring? Then his was the deeper and the more outrageous mud. Did any neighboring resident suffer from any ailment that flesh is heir to? Then did that Bloomfield man arise and explain that for profundity of malaria, for solid grip of shaking chill, for steam-engine fury of burning fever, for coughs, colds, measles, diphtheria and every other disease, he submitted the superior claims of his town to the attention of the company.

Nay, he has even been known to produce this topic like a convenient horse-pistol from his side-pocket, and to present it full in the face of innocent strangers. The I. S. would inquire, "Whose is that delightful mansion on yonder smiling hill? And whose be these ruddy children that I see swarming through the village streets?" Then to him would the Bloomfield man respond: "Sir, be not ennaured. Yonder simple villa is hopelessly upon its owner's hands. Cheerfully would he receive a tithe of what it cost him. And as for these children—alas, sir, unconscious of their fate, these little victims play! This color of the cheek—is it the hectic flush produced by the bit-

ter quinine pill. Behold that sleek, well-fed druggist! Behold that happy undertaker! Behold these busy physicians! Sir, Bloomfield is hopelessly behind the age: the inhabitants are wretchedly sick—one-half of their time. Go to Orange, go to Montclair: for pity's sake go anywhere, but come not hither to Bloomfield! Our graveyard is held by a close corporation, and we intend to fill it up, shut the gates, and stop the business."

Then would the I. S. gaze upon the form and visage of that Bloomfield man, and tearfully ask: "Why don't you, too, vanish, escape, fly, and disappear?" And the Bloomfield man would excuse himself on the ground that he had got used to it, was acclimated, in short, and that he heartily wished he didn't live here; but he couldn't help it. So the I. S. would go off to Montclair or Orange, or some other heavily bonded place, and thus the Bloomfield man had kept an obtrusive and possibly entertaining citizen out of his quiet town, and peace would still reign serene.

The editorial management of this paper hereby give notice that this Bloomfield man has lately disappeared. He was last heard from in the Montgomery neighborhood on his way to Belleville, to inspect the Newark water supply, with a view to settling in a new region where he could legitimately grumble and be sick. There is at present a blank tombstone in this office awaiting his return. Before the filling and grading of the Park is completed, a site for his sepulchre has been chosen. He must hasten home if he desires to secure it without extra charge. Otherwise, it will be recovered in and lost, and so will he!

N. B.—This is rote sarkastikal.

CHEAP HOMES.

No one at all familiar with the matter will be surprised to learn that nearly all the houses in Bloomfield of moderate size, and to be rented for less than thirty-five dollars per month, were rented long before the first of April this Spring.

Indeed, those who did not close their bargains by March 1st, find it difficult to have any choice as to their homes for the ensuing twelve months. Such facts as these carry their own obnoxiousness home to the mind, and it is not for us to dwell on them.

It settles the point that the demand for such property exceeds the supply, and it proves that, if capitalists will invest their money in this class of houses, a profitable rate of interest may be realized.

Let us examine the details: Suppose the lot to cost one thousand dollars—and one thousand dollars will buy some very desirable lots conveniently near the railroad stations. Upon this lot can be built a very neat and comfortable house, for from twenty-five hundred to three thousand dollars. And at a cost of, say, four thousand dollars, one has a property which will rent readily for at least thirty dollars per month.

The cost of these houses can be diminished considerably if three or more are built at the same time, and the competition which a contract for work of that extent would draw out, could not fail to benefit the owner in the character of the work and the price offered.

It is sometimes urged that small houses attract a class of men of small means, so that the average wealth of a town is diminished by offering special inducements to people of moderate income. This is not strictly true. The people of small means of to-day become people of comfortable circumstances in a few years, and then, having lived here and grown attached to the community and interested in our churches and schools and other local matters, they buy or build for themselves homes of larger proportions and more extensive surroundings.

If any of us will stop to count those of our neighbors who first came to reside among us by renting one of the smaller houses for a few years, in order to test the place as a permanent residence before investing their property in real estate, and who afterward decided to remain, we shall be surprised to find how largely our increase of population has come in this way.

There is abundant time for landowners to satisfy themselves of the truth of these statements; and since they are true, let us hope that the rate of interest to be realized will induce the erection of so many such houses during the next twelve months that we may be able to receive every man who seeks a home among us.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We fold in this number of THE CITIZEN a blank form for subscriptions. Our friends, among whom we circulate the present edition of the paper, will confer a favor if they will fill these out, enclose the money, and forward the same to us by mail at once.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

Notices will be inserted under the heading at ten cents a line each week.

MR. CYRUS PIERSON'S new store is nearly ready for occupancy; he expects to move about the 1st of May. With greatly increased facilities and a replenished stock of goods, Mr. Pierson will be able to insure satisfaction to all who may favor him with their orders.

Our friends, who have not yet purchased their supplies of seeds will do well to visit the old house of Peter Henderson & Co., whose name is synonymous with reliability and fair dealing.

DANCER, the newsmen, will deliver THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN to any who may desire it, at five cents a copy. The same may be said of Quimby, the Wat-seeing newsdealer.

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